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Volume IX No. 21

22 October-4 November 1953

AGREEMENTS:	FRANCO-LAOTIAN	679
	ITALIAN-SOVIET TRADE	691
	JAPANESE-COMMONWEALTH	691
	SINO-JAPANESE TRADE	678
	U.S.-JAPANESE	709
CONFERENCES:	ARAB LEAGUE POLITICAL COMMITTEE	692
	G.A.T.T., GENEVA	703
	O.E.E.C. COUNCIL	697-8
	U.N.-COMMUNIST RE KOREAN CONFERENCE	694-6
	U.N. GENERAL ASSEMBLY	703-6
	U.N. SECURITY COUNCIL	707
	WORLD ZIONIST MOVEMENT	690
DISORDERS:	INDIA	689
	TRIESTE	702
DISPUTES:	CHINESE NATIONALIST FORCES IN BURMA	677, 701, 705
	GERM WARFARE	704, 705
	ISRAELI-SYRIAN RE JORDAN WATERS	690, 707, 708
	JAPANESE-SOUTH KOREAN	692
	KOREA ATROCITIES	705, 706, 708, 709
	MOROCCO	704
	PALESTINE	707
	SOUTH AFRICAN RACIAL POLICY	703
	TRIESTE	681, 686-7, 691, 707, 708, 712-13
	TUNISIA	704
ELECTIONS:	GERMAN LAND (HAMBURG)	683
	NORTHERN IRELAND	690
MINISTERIAL CHANGES:	RUMANIA	701
NOTES:	SOVIET NOTE TO WESTERN POWERS	711-12
SPEECHES	M. BIDAULT ON E.D.C.	680
AND	MR BUTLER ON FOREIGN SERVICE ALLOWANCE ETC	697
STATEMENTS:	MR BYROADE ON COLONIALISM	709
	SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL ON WORLD AFFAIRS	687
	MR EDEN ON TRIESTE	686-7

ARAB LEAGUE. 23 Oct.—Political Committee meeting in Jordan (*see Jordan*).

26 Oct.—*Jordan*. Ahmed Shukairy, Assistant Secretary-General of the League, said in Cairo that the Arab League States would increase financial aid to Jordan to help her meet Israeli aggression. Such aid would be in the neighbourhood of £1 m.

27 Oct.—Statement on Political Committee's decision (*see Lebanon*).

ARGENTINA. 3 Nov.—Under a law suppressing crimes against the State's safety, six postal officials were sentenced to prison terms ranging from one to four years for transmitting to Uruguay secret and confidential information 'affecting the internal life of Argentina'.

4 Nov.—*Antarctic*. A naval expedition to the Antarctic, comprising six ships and 800 men but no warships, sailed from Buenos Aires.

AUSTRALIA. 24 Oct.—G.A.T.T. concession (*see United Nations, General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade*).

25 Oct.—*Japan*. It was announced that Australia would exercise her right under G.A.T.T. not to extend concessions to Japan.

26 Oct.—*Atomic Explosion*. A third British atomic explosion was made at Woomera.

30 Oct.—*Wheat*. The Government announced Australian ratification of the International Wheat Agreement.

2 Nov.—*Japan. Pearlring Dispute*. The Minister for Commerce announced that the Government had agreed to the submission of the pearling dispute by Japan to the International Court to test the legality of the recently imposed Australian restrictions.

AUSTRIA. 22 Oct.—*Soviet Threat to Police Chief*. The Ministry of the Interior announced that the Soviet authorities had ordered the Vienna police commissioner, Herr Holoubek, on pain of reprisals against himself, to stop all proceedings against two Austrian police officials who had been involved in the abduction of a Vienna taxicab driver on behalf of the Russians. Herr Holoubek had been told that a refusal to comply would be regarded as a hostile act against the occupation authorities. The Ministry said that Herr Holoubek had refused the Soviet order on the ground that it contravened Austrian law. One of the police officials had been arrested and the other ordered to report to police H.Q.

28 Oct.—Introducing the 1954 draft budget to the National Assembly Dr Kamitz, Finance Minister, spoke of the impressive economic recovery achieved in the past two years. He said exports were 60 per cent above the 1937 level in volume.

30 Oct.—*Protest Against Occupation*. On the occasion of the tenth anniversary of the Moscow declaration on Austria, work ceased for five minutes all over the country and demonstrations were held in protest against the continued allied occupation.

At a specially convened session of the National Assembly Herr Raab, the Chancellor, denounced the four occupying Powers for failing to

keep their promise. He said he was grateful for the liberation and aid already given by the allies but this was not enough. Austria had become a bargaining counter in the hands of the great Powers, and not one of them, whether for strategic or prestige reasons, would give up the occupation. He criticized Russia for having 'legalized Hitler's robbery of Austrian property'.

Spokesmen at the Embassies of the three western Powers expressed regret at the delay in reaching agreement on a peace treaty.

BRITISH GUIANA. 22 Oct.—Commons debate (*see Great Britain*).

An attempt was made by saboteurs to wreck a train carrying British troops.

24 Oct.—Five members of the P.P.P., including Sidney King, ex-Minister of Communications, Rory Westmaas, and Martin Carter, were arrested while haranguing sugar workers at Blairmont.

25 Oct.—Two more P.P.P. members were arrested at Blairmont. Mr Hopkinson's statement (*see Great Britain*).

Telephone wires were cut by saboteurs ten miles from Georgetown.

26 Oct.—The Government announced that the Governor had ordered the indefinite detention under emergency regulations of the following five P.P.P. members arrested at Blairmont: Sidney King, Rory Westmaas, Martin Carter, Balli Lachmansingh, and Adjodha Singh. The other two arrested members had been released. The statement said that the Governor was satisfied that the five P.P.P. leaders were 'a threat to public safety'. He had appointed an advisory committee to hear objections by the detained persons and to make recommendations.

29 Oct.—Mr Gutch, Chief Secretary, announced that an interim Government comprising a single Chamber Legislature and an Executive Council would be established in mid-December. All members would be nominated by the Governor.

Sugar workers at the Enmore plantation, fourteen miles from Georgetown, came out on strike. On other estates the position was reported to be unchanged with between 60 and 80 per cent of workers on strike.

30 Oct.—The Trades Union Council decided to ask for its own dissolution because it was infected with 'the Communist virus'. Seven of the nine affiliated unions voted in favour of a resolution requesting the registrar of trade unions to dissolve the Council because 'its continued existence has become most undesirable'. The Council had previously condemned the People's Progressive Party leaders.

1 Nov.—The deputy police commissioner confirmed reports of large-scale arms smuggling on the frontier with Brazil.

2 Nov.—The Manpower Citizens' Association issued an appeal to sugar workers to return to work.

BURMA. 26 Oct.—Chinese Nationalists. Burmese sources stated that Chinese Nationalist forces in the area of the Burma-Thailand railway had received strong reinforcements from the north. Between

Burma (*continued*)

400-500 guerrillas were said to be massed at Thinganny Ingaung Pass, about sixty miles east of Moulmein.

29 Oct.—Burmese agreement to a cease-fire (*see Siam*).

Siamese warning *re* violation of frontier (*see Siam*).

31 Oct.—U.N. debate on Chinese Nationalists (*see United Nations, General Assembly—Political Committee*).

CEYLON. 24 Oct.—Foreign Policy. Sir John Kotawala, Prime Minister, said at a U.N. dinner that Ceylon believed in the British Commonwealth with its principle of mutual aid such as the Colombo Plan. Ceylon would also maintain the closest alliance with her immediate neighbours. Under Mr Nehru's enlightened leadership Asian countries could have an effective say in world problems.

29 Oct.—Export Duty. The Finance Minister announced the Government's decision to impose at once a flat rate of export duty of 45 cents a pound on tea instead of the existing sliding scale.

Union Jack. It was announced that in future the Union Jack would no longer be flown or the British national anthem played at official functions but only the Ceylon flag and the Ceylon national anthem.

CHINA. 29 Oct.—Japan. A trade agreement with Japan was signed providing for exports worth £30 m. by each country. Fulfilment was to be by barter, the values to be computed on a sterling basis.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA. 2 Nov.—Sentences on Israeli citizens (*see Israel*).

DENMARK. 23 Oct.—Poland. It was announced that the Government had protested to Poland against a demand for the withdrawal of the Danish Consul in Gdynia because of the escape to Denmark of a Polish woman secretary at the Consulate by means of the Consul's wife's passport. The Government had stated that the Consul was in no way involved in the escape. It had also rejected a Polish demand for the extradition of the woman secretary who had been granted political asylum in Denmark.

EGYPT. 25 Oct.—The Revolutionary Tribunal sentenced Mahmoud Solima Ghannam, ex-Wafd Minister of Commerce, to fifteen years' imprisonment for subversive activity against the regime and abuse of office while a Minister.

Canal Zone Incident. The British Embassy announced that a British soldier had been attacked and injured north of Ismailia on the night of 25 October.

27 Oct.—The Revolutionary Tribunal sentenced Dr Ahmed Nakib, superintendent of the Moassat Hospital, Alexandria, to fifteen years' imprisonment for misuse of hospital funds. He was a close associate of ex-King Farouk.

28 Oct.—Canal Zone. Major Salem, Minister of National Guidance,

issued a statement saying that Egypt was anxious to discharge her international duties regarding the Suez Canal in accordance with all international conventions but that she could not play this important role satisfactorily until she had acquired full sovereignty and rights.

1 Nov.—The Revolutionary Tribunal sentenced Hilmry Hussein, the former royal chauffeur, to be cashiered and deprived of all property and assets acquired since January 1944. He was alleged to have amassed £70,000 through his influence at court and by other illegal means.

3 Nov.—The Revolutionary Tribunal sentenced Kamel el Kawish, former Governor of Cairo, to fifteen years' imprisonment but suspended execution of the sentence and deprived him of the 'honour of citizenship'. He was charged with having influenced the public prosecutor to drop charges against members of ex-King Farouk's entourage in connection with the supply of defective arms to Egyptian troops in the Palestine war.

FINLAND. 4 Nov.—Government Defeat. The Government fell after being defeated on a question of confidence over State grants to the building industry.

FRANCE. 22 Oct.—E.D.C. Treaty: Communist Opposition.

M. Duclos, leader of the Communist Party, said at a meeting of the party central committee that to prevent the E.D.C. Treaty from being ratified the Communists were prepared to join with any other Frenchmen in a nation-wide campaign. This declaration applied also to parliamentary action. He expressed Communist willingness to support the programme proposed by a Radical deputy, M. Gaston Maurice, for a 'committee of public safety' which called for a cessation of hostilities in Indo-China, the rejection of German rearmament, and general disarmament.

Note to Viet-Nam. M. Laniel, Prime Minister, handed a Note to the High Commissioner of Viet-Nam which asked his Government to define clearly its attitude towards the French Union.

Laos. King Sisavang Vong of Laos and M. Auriol, President of the Republic, signed a treaty of friendship and association under which Laos achieved full independence and affirmed her membership of the French Union.

23 Oct.—Agriculture. The National Assembly approved by 320 to 252 votes the recent Government decrees and its agricultural policy of price stabilization, market reform, and modernization.

25 Oct.—M. Daladier. M. Daladier said in a message to the Gaullists that he would support all those who fought against E.D.C. whatever their party or belief.

27 Oct.—Indo-China. In a debate on Indo-China in the National Assembly a Radical deputy, M. Massot, said that from 1946–52 the war had cost France 1,677,000 m. francs (about £1,700 m.) and Viet-Nam only 89,000 m. francs (about £90 m.). Over the same period Viet-Nam casualties had amounted to 31,850 compared with 76,200 French casualties. M. Jacquet, Secretary of State for the Associated

France (continued)

States, pointed out that in 1952 the proportion of Viet-Namense casualties had increased—the figures for Viet-Nam being 7,749 killed and 4,099 wounded, and for France 5,909 killed and 11,917 wounded. M. Daladier said he had not met a military officer of any rank who believed in a military victory, and he declared himself in favour of negotiations with Ho Chi-Minh and ready to co-operate with anyone to end the war and to defeat the E.D.C. treaty.

Conscription of Aliens. The National Assembly passed unanimously an act under which foreign citizens between the ages of eighteen and a half and twenty-six, resident in France for more than one year, became subject to conscription. It applied only to the nationals of those countries who conscripted French citizens under similar circumstances.

28 Oct.—Indo-China. The National Assembly approved by 315 votes to 251 a resolution which laid down the following four lines of policy in regard to Indo-China: (1) to develop the armies of the three Associated States so that they should be able to take over from the French Army; (2) to seek to bring about the pacification of Asia by negotiation; (3) to assure that the sacrifices would be justly shared between the free nations; (4) to achieve the independence of the Associated States within the framework of the French Union. Amongst the majority groups twenty-two Radicals voted against the resolution and ten abstained. Nine U.D.S.R. members voted against, and fourteen abstained. M. Laniel, winding up the debate, said there was at present no alternative to the Government's policy and that the Government would never engage in negotiations with Viet-Minh without the full accord of the Associated States.

29 Oct.—Announcement *re* trade liberalization (see *Organization for European Economic Co-operation*).

Relaxation of emergency measures in Tunisia (see *Tunisia*).

E.D.C. M. Bidault, Foreign Minister, speaking in the Council of the Republic, said France was willing to accept certain limitations of her sovereignty in order to constitute the European Defence Community but would do so by her own sovereign decision and not under pressure from a foreign Government. He added that three questions must be solved before the E.D.C. treaty could be ratified; the Saar; the additional protocols which must have the same value as the treaty itself and its annexes, and must be signed by the six Foreign Ministers of the E.D.C. countries; and, thirdly, an agreement with Great Britain. The Government wanted a treaty between Britain and the six members of the European Defence Community. Technically, they wanted co-operation between their armed forces; politically, procedure must be established for consultation on common problems; and constitutionally, British participation was required in several of the Community's committees.

30 Oct.—E.D.C. The Council of the Republic voted by 240 to 74 in favour of a motion which called upon the Government, before submitting the E.D.C. treaties for ratification, 'to seek guarantees for all French interests and the integrity of the French Union, and the establishment, notably with Britain, of a true equilibrium in Europe'. A

Socialist motion approving the principle of a unified European army 'subject to guarantees on the form and nature of the close association to be established between E.D.C. and Britain' was defeated by 238 votes to 76.

31 Oct.—Trieste. M. Bidault and Signor Pella, Italian Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, discussed the Trieste dispute.

3 Nov.—Butchers Protest. Several thousand butchers voted to abandon the latest official prices for meat, introduced two weeks earlier, and to revert to the sliding scale instituted by the Government in September. They claimed that the new system awarded them insufficient profit.

4 Nov.—It was announced that the Government had decided to maintain the new prices for meat in force.

FRENCH WEST AFRICA. 3 Nov.—Strikes. A three-day strike was begun at Dakar and in Senegal in protest against French application of laws regulating employment.

GERMANY. 22 Oct. Berlin: Chief Burgomaster. Dr Walter Schreiber, Christian Democrat, was elected Chief Burgomaster of west Berlin. He defeated the Social Democratic candidate, Dr Suhr, by 62 votes to 57.

West Germany. Dr Schröder, Minister of the Interior, said in a radio broadcast that it was most urgent to give effect to the *Bundestag's* proposal for the increase of the border police from 10,000 to 20,000 men.

24 Oct.—East Germany. Price Reductions. Herr Grotewohl, east German Prime Minister, announced reductions varying from 10 to 30 per cent in the prices of food and consumer goods. The reductions were greater on industrial goods than on foodstuffs and were to affect only goods at State H.O. shops. Herr Grotewohl said the cuts would represent an increase of 540 m. marks in the purchasing power of the population up till the end of the year.

26 Oct.—Field-Marshal von Paulus. The east German Radio reported that Field-Marshal von Paulus had returned from Russia to live in east Germany.

West Germany. The Saar. Dr Adenauer discussed with M. François-Poncet, French High Commissioner, the opening of direct negotiations with M. Bidault on the Saar.

27 Oct.—East Berlin. Arrests. The east German news agency, A.D.N., announced that four east Berliners had been arrested on charges of espionage.

28 Oct.—Arrests. *Die Neue Zeitung* reported that Herr Zaisser, former east German Minister of State Security, and Herr Herrnstadt, former editor of the Socialist Unity Party newspaper, *Neues Deutschland*, had been arrested.

Berlin. Restitution Court. The supreme restitution court of Berlin, set up by allied law to deal with appeals from German courts involving the return of property to Nazi victims, met for the first time. It con-

Germany (continued)

sisted of allied and German judges in equal numbers with a 'neutral' president, Dr Salen of Sweden.

West Germany. Foreign Policy. Speaking in a *Bundestag* debate on Dr Adenauer's policy statement of 20 October, Dr Dehler, Chairman of the Free Democrats' parliamentary party, announced his party's support of the Chancellor's foreign policy and its unreserved acceptance of European integration on the basis of equal rights and duties. He supported the claim to Germany's eastern territories and to the Saar in the terms of the U.N. Charter but, while accepting the principle of the economic Europeanization of the Saar, he rejected political Europeanization.

Herr Ollenhauer, leader of the Social Democrats, pledged his Government's support for any step the Government might take to secure the carrying out of the Bonn German Contract. He said that the future free and united Germany must be admitted into the United Nations and that her military status should then be re-examined after her admission. He appealed for the closest possible relations with East Germany. In regard to the Saar, he expressed dissatisfaction with the Chancellor's reference to the problem and said that any renunciation of the Saar as part of Germany would 'gravely prejudice the German case for the eastern frontiers at future peace negotiations'.

29 Oct.—East Germany. Currency. The Government decided to base the east German mark on gold and said its gold content would be 0.399902 grammes.

Berlin. Sir Frederick Hoyer Miller, the new British High Commissioner, said at a ceremony in Berlin that Britain and her allies had a vital and lasting interest in the security of Berlin. They would stand by Berlin so long as their responsibilities demanded it and were resolved to treat an attack on Berlin as 'an attack on our forces and ourselves'. He reaffirmed also that German unification in freedom was a cardinal point in British policy.

East Germany. Ministerial Appointment. It was announced that Herr Georg Handke, former Ambassador to Rumania, had been appointed State Secretary and deputy Foreign Minister.

31 Oct.—East Germany. Espionage. The Ministry of the Interior announced the discovery by security forces of 'considerable groups of hostile organizations working for American and west German secret services' and said that arrests had been made in Berlin, Halle, Saxony, Cottbus, Potsdam, and other places. The men behind the scenes were said to be the same as those responsible for the 'fascist *putsch* of 17 June' and to be working under the direction of the former 'Hitler' general, von Gehlen, and the U.S. counter-intelligence agency, C.I.C. The statement said that a secret radio transmitter of American origin, arms, espionage material, and plans to carry out joint plots against the Republic had been seized.

The east German Communist press reported a trial at Halle of a group convicted of espionage at the Leuna oil refineries. The accused were said to have taken an active part in the June demonstrations. The

chief accused was sentenced to fourteen years' imprisonment and the others to terms of five or six years.

West Berlin. At a court martial in west Berlin a U.S. soldier was sentenced to fifteen years' hard labour for espionage for Russia and writing for *Pravda*.

Von Paulus statement (see *U.S.S.R.*).

1 Nov.—West Germany. Hamburg Elections. In the Hamburg *Land* election the four-party coalition *bloc* won 62 seats and the Social Democrats 58. The Social Democrats increased their vote by 3 per cent as against the Hamburg election of 1949, and by 7 per cent as against the September federal election. The Communists and the splinter groups failed to obtain representation.

2 Nov.—East Germany. Espionage. The district court at Cottbus sentenced one man to death, another to life imprisonment, and five others to prison terms ranging from seven to fifteen years. They were charged with espionage and were stated to be in contact with the Bonn espionage organization which had its H.Q. in west Berlin and was directed by the former Wehrmacht general, von Gehlen.

Berlin. Three Czechs arrived in west Berlin and asked for asylum. They described how after leaving Czechoslovakia on 3 October they had had clashes with the police in east Germany in which two of their comrades and four east German policemen had been killed.

3 Nov.—East Germany. East German authorities published figures, said to have been taken from documents of the former German High Command found in the Soviet zone, according to which 25,000 members of the German forces were sentenced to death by German courts martial between 1939–45. *Tägliche Rundschau* said that all these 'victims of the criminal Fascist regime' were described in Bonn as prisoners of war.

GOLD COAST.—23 Oct.—Dr Nkrumah, Prime Minister, announced the suspension from the Convention People's Party of two members, Anthony Wood and Turkson Ocran, for associating with a Communist international organization with which the C.P.P. had no connection (believed to be the World Federation of Trade Unions). Both were leading trade unionists.

24 Oct.—Dr Nkrumah told a U.N. students' organization that the Government had no affiliations with foreign Powers and that there could never be any question of 'exchanging British masters for Russian masters'.

GREAT BRITAIN. 22 Oct.—British Guiana. A Government motion in the Commons seeking approval for its action in British Guiana was approved, after the defeat by 294 votes to 256 of a Labour amendment which, while deploring the actions and speeches of some P.P.P. leaders and condemning methods tending to the establishment of a totalitarian regime in a British colony, nevertheless considered the suspension of the Constitution to be unjustifiable.

During the debate Mr Lyttelton, Colonial Secretary, referred to the

Great Britain (continued)

White Paper and summed up the activities of Dr Jagan and his colleagues as 'a deadly design to turn British Guiana into a totalitarian State, dominated by Communist ideas, whose whole political, industrial, and social life was to be concentrated in the hands and power of one party'. He said the Governor was convinced that organized incendiarism was being planned but that there was difficulty in obtaining evidence about the plot owing to intimidation. He regretted the setback to democratic advance in Guiana and promised that the advance would be resumed as soon as conditions permitted. He denied that it would have been possible to carry on day-to-day Government by a continued use of the Governor's reserve powers as the Opposition suggested.

Mr Griffiths for the Opposition maintained that the situation could have been dealt with under the Governor's reserve powers plus the powers of Whitehall to demand the resignations of individual Ministers. He urged that the Ministers should be brought to trial and given an opportunity of meeting the charges of incitement to violence, of planning incendiarism, and of conspiring to subvert the constitution. Mr Attlee, leader of the Labour Party, agreed that the P.P.P. was 'Communist-led' and that if there was danger of violence it was right to bring in troops, but he criticized the Government for suspending the Constitution before having first tried less drastic measures such as dissolution.

Dr Jagan, ex Prime Minister in British Guiana, and Mr Burnham, chairman of the People's Progressive Party, issued a statement denying the charges against them.

Israeli Note *re* attack on Qibya (*see Israel*).

23 Oct.—British Guiana. Five Guianese opponents of the P.P.P., including Mr John Carter, chairman of the United Democratic Party, emphasized at a press conference in London the need for more financial help to develop British Guiana and restore the economy and thus counter Communist propaganda by raising living standards. They all endorsed the information given in the White Paper.

Human Rights Convention. The Government notified the Council of Europe of its decision to extend to forty-two British territories overseas the provision of the European convention on human rights, not including a protocol ratified in the United Kingdom in November 1952 giving the right to free and secret elections, ownership of property, and the choice by parents of what type of education their children would receive. The convention was also to be extended to the Kingdom of Tonga at its own request.

Central African federation raised in United Nations (*see U.N. General Assembly—Trusteeship Committee*).

24 Oct.—G.A.T.T. concession to Britain (*see United Nations, General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade*).

25 Oct.—British Guiana. On returning to London from British Guiana, Mr Hopkinson, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, told the press that it was the general view in the colony that if the Government had not acted there would have been a very rapid deterioration of public administration.

26 Oct.—Atomic Explosion. A third British atomic explosion was successfully made at the Woomera test site in Australia.

28 Oct.—British Guiana. In a statement in the Commons on the detention of certain P.P.P. leaders (*see British Guiana*), Mr Lyttelton, Colonial Secretary, said that, following the Governor's announcement of the suspension of the Constitution, the P.P.P. had called a general strike and leaders had toured sugar estates to induce workers to obey the call. Intimidation and threats had been used against those unwilling to strike, and there were specific cases of workers having their rice farms destroyed, their houses stoned, and of their being assaulted and having their lives threatened. He quoted from a recent report of the deputy Commissioner of Labour which said that a very large number of workers would return to work but for fear of harm to their persons or their property. The Governor had announced that difficulty had been experienced in obtaining eye witnesses of illegal meetings because of fear of victimization. The Governor had decided that five of seven P.P.P. leaders arrested on 24 October for questioning constituted a threat to public safety and that their detention was necessary. At the same time he had appointed an advisory committee to hear objections by those detained. The detention of these persons in no way precluded proceedings against them for punishable offences that could be tried in courts.

Kenya. In a statement on Kenya Mr Lyttelton said that outside the tribal area a successful scheme of rehabilitation of Mau-Mau adherents had been set up under two Europeans and sixteen Kikuyu on the Athi river. On European farms a more secure system of employing Kikuyu labour was to be initiated: labour would be employed on contract and housed in compact villages. In regard to land questions, successful efforts were being made in North Nyeri to reform the system of land tenure and to discourage land fragmentation. In response to a petition by African leaders in all three Kikuyu districts the Governor had announced measures under which Mau-Mau leaders would forfeit their land rights to the benefit of the tribe. For Kenya as a whole the Governor had announced on 20 October extensive plans for land development. In addition, schemes submitted by the Committee on African Advancement included assistance in setting up African traders in business, adult education, and rural training. Her Majesty's Government would stand behind the Kenya Government financially if necessary.

Giving details of progress already achieved, Mr Lyttelton said that the biggest scheme for African settlement was already two years ahead of the programme laid down in the ten years' plan. It covered 450 square miles at Makuomi and 900 families had already moved in. The Government had made a loan of £10,000 to the sisal factory at Machakos run by the African district council. Coffee production by African smallholders was also being encouraged.

Trieste. Opening a Commons debate on Trieste, Mr Noel Baker for the Opposition criticized the exclusion of France from the declaration of 8 October and also the manner in which the declaration had been

Great Britain (*continued*)

handled which he described as 'ill-considered, irresponsible, and foolish'. He urged that British troops should stay in Trieste until agreement was reached, that a five-Power conference should meet with the least possible delay, and that its scope should be unrestricted with nothing excluded and nothing demanded in advance. It should consider not only the two-Power declaration but also all constructive proposals put forward by both sides and some of the principles forming the basis of the proposed Free Territory. He also urged that the Security Council when it met should call on both parties to withdraw their armies and cancel all military preparations.

Mr Eden, replying, emphasized that because of the serious situation which had developed in August and September the Government had been faced with the choice of taking some drastic measure or allowing the situation to deteriorate steadily and seriously. He said the French position was different from the British and United States because there were no French forces in the zone, but close contact had been, and was being, maintained with the French Government. After referring both to the attempts made to reach a settlement on the basis of the peace treaty and to the Tripartite Declaration of 1948, Mr Eden said that in the years that followed it had become increasingly evident that in practice there was no possibility of giving effect to either solution. In spite of innumerable proposals nationalist feeling had proved too strong to allow a compromise on any other basis—ethnic, geographical or political. Ever since 1945 Yugoslavia had gradually made the administration of Zone B conform to the Yugoslav system of Government, and it was in an attempt to meet Italian demands for a greater share in the administration of Zone A that arrangements were made during the summer for a transfer of some of the functions of Government. After his visit to Belgrade a year earlier he had become convinced that a settlement along the zonal boundaries, though by no means ideal, was the only practicable one.

Mr Eden said that when the declaration of 8 October was decided on it had been concluded that there was no chance of securing acceptance of the solution in advance by negotiations without vigorous intervention and therefore it was thought that both sides would acquiesce if the decision was announced to both simultaneously and without prior consultation with either. Criticism, protest, and reaction by both sides had been foreseen but not a threat of military force. There could be no justification for that threat. Mr Eden said that to consult the other signatories of the peace treaty or to refer the matter to the Security Council would have been impracticable, given the rapidly deteriorating situation. The Government were still trying to bring the parties into agreement. He thought the most hopeful approach was by means of a conference in which Britain, France, and the United States might join. The Government were not prepared to withdraw the statement of 8 October. The arrangements for handing over the administration of Zone A and for the withdrawal of troops would take time, and a conference could well take place meanwhile.

In conclusion Mr Eden emphasized that improving relations between Greece, Yugoslavia, and Turkey, between Greece and Italy, and between Turkey and Italy could not find their full meaning without a real understanding between Italy and Yugoslavia, and he emphasized that disputes, such as Trieste, between nations whose common interest it was to remain united, gravely weakened the whole position of Europe.

Derationing. The Government announced that rationing of butter, other fats, and cheese would be ended during 1954.

29 Oct.—Increase in Foreign Travel Allowance and Extension of Trade Liberalization (see *Organization for European Economic Co-operation*).

The Treasury announced that the increased travel allowance of £50 would be available for an additional eighteen countries, including the U.S.S.R., eastern Germany, Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland, and Rumania. The unlimited allowance for travel in Scandinavian countries, withdrawn in 1952, would be restored.

30 Oct.—Ministerial Resignation. It was announced that Lord Cherwell, Paymaster-General, had resigned in order to resume his academic duties at Oxford.

2 Nov.—British Guiana. The Colonial Office announced that two experts, Mr G. Lacey and Mr F. A. Brown, were leaving that day for British Guiana to advise the British Guiana Government on drainage and irrigation and land settlement questions.

3 Nov.—New Parliamentary Session. The Queen opened the new session of Parliament. The speech from the Throne pledged the Government's determination to work for a relaxation of international tension and for a meeting between the Soviet Union and the three western Powers. It reaffirmed the Government's loyalty to the United Nations and to the North Atlantic alliance, also its resolve to continue to work in close harmony with the United States and to co-operate with west European partners to promote European unity and economic well being. It further pledged the Government's resolve to work for a settlement of German unity in conjunction with the French and U.S. Governments and to maintain efforts to conclude an Austrian State Treaty. The hope was expressed for a renewal of friendly relations with Persia and a resumption of diplomatic relations. The speech emphasized the importance of continued consultation with Commonwealth partners and said that a meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers would be held in Australia in January. In working for the progress and well-being of colonial territories and Protectorates the Government undertook to ensure that measures would be promoted in the interests of all races. The speech then outlined the Government's programme of legislation.

Speaking in the debate on the Address, Sir Winston Churchill, Prime Minister, after referring to domestic affairs and appealing for a truce to party strife in regard to the Government's new housing policy, turned to an examination of the world situation. He thought the outlook less formidable but more baffling than that of two years earlier and observed that one major world fact was outstanding: the United States

Great Britain (*continued*)

had become again 'a heavily armed nation'. He said the question was still being asked whether there had been a change in Soviet policy since Stalin's death and he expressed the view that it was not 'unreasonable or dangerous to conclude that internal prosperity rather than external conquest is not only the deep desire of the Russian peoples but also the long interest of their rulers'. He still hoped that there could be a meeting of the heads of the Governments of the leading Powers, but he added the warning that such a meeting might end in deadlock and in any case could not be expected to lead to a rapid general settlement of problems. Time would be needed. In the meantime he hoped for a favourable Soviet reply to the invitation to a four-Power Foreign Ministers' conference.

Sir Winston said that another dominant event of the past two years was the prodigious development over that period of atomic warfare and the hydrogen bomb. He offered the 'comforting idea' that 'a war which begins by both sides suffering what they dread most . . . is less likely to occur than one which dangles the lurid prizes of former ages before ambitious eyes', but he added that 'our only hope can spring from untiring vigilance'. He ended by declaring that as an alternative to war the human race could have the swiftest expansion of material well-being that had ever been within their reach or within their dreams. 'These majestic possibilities,' he said, 'ought to gleam and be made to gleam before the eyes of the toilers in every land and ought to inspire the actions of all who bear responsibility for their guidance.'

4 Nov.—Defence. The Navy, Army, and Air Force Reserves Bill, a measure to strengthen and improve the effectiveness of the reserve forces, was published and also read a first time in the Commons.

Persian Oil. Mr Hoover, special oil adviser of Mr Dulles, arrived in London from Persia for discussions concerning the Persian oil dispute.

GREECE. 26 Oct.—Russian Protest (*see U.S.S.R.*).

HUNGARY. 23 Oct.—Establishment of Yugoslav-Hungarian joint frontier commission (*see Yugoslavia*).

INDIA. 28 Oct.—Soviet Gift. The Soviet Ambassador presented the Prime Minister with a cheque for three lakhs of rupees (approximately £22,500) from the Soviet Red Cross for flood relief.

31 Oct.—Disorders. Thirty-nine persons were injured in clashes with the police during a students' demonstration at Lucknow. The demonstration was against the arrest of two students who had gone on hunger strike in protest against the expulsion of fourteen students from the University. The police opened fire after tear gas had failed to disperse the demonstrators.

1 Nov.—Demonstrators at Lucknow attacked two power stations and cut off the electricity supply to many places. Three post offices were also attacked and bonfires made of paper and furniture. Hooligans were said to be mainly responsible. A four-day curfew was imposed.

Mr Nehru, Prime Minister, threatened to close Lucknow University unless the students ceased their disorders.

2 Nov.—It was learnt that 314 people had been arrested since the imposition of the curfew.

Foreign Contracts. The financial commissioner for the State-owned railways announced that the Government was buying locomotives from Germany, Japan, and Austria because British bids were too high.

4 Nov.—**Tribal Unrest in Assam.** It was announced that parachute troops had been dropped to strengthen the garrison at Gusar, in the Abor hills, north-east Assam, where Daffa tribesmen had attacked an official party on 22 October. More than seventy of the party had been reported killed, most of those killed being Galong tribesmen accompanying officials.

Korea. Mr Allen, U.S. Ambassador, said on arriving back in Delhi from a visit to Korea that the Indian officials and troops were doing 'an outstanding job' in the demilitarized zone. He paid a particularly high tribute to the conduct and judgement of Gen. Thimayya, the chairman of the neutral commission.

INDO-CHINA. 22 Oct.—**Viet-Nam: French Note** (*see France*).

Franco-Laotian Agreement (*see France*).

23 Oct.—Mr Van Tam, Prime Minister of Viet-Nam, told journalists that the 'secession' resolution passed at the recent national congress should be seen in its proper perspective. He said that it had never been in the mind of the congress or of the majority of the people to secede from the French Union and that Viet-Nam, even when completely independent, would still need France for many years to come.

24 Oct.—**Viet-Nam.** Mr Heath, U.S. Ambassador, said at a United Nations ceremony in Saigon that France was the only country in a position to make a military contribution for the defence of the Associated States. At the ceremony Mr Nguyen Van Tam, the Prime Minister, paid a tribute to the valour of the expeditionary force and to 'the disinterestedness with which France is engaged in a cause which is becoming, it must be admitted, far more our own than hers'.

28 Oct.—The Emperor, Bao Dai, arrived in Saigon from France. He stated in a message to his people that he had returned to make contact with the Viet-Nam people before opening the negotiations with the French for which he intended to designate negotiators.

31 Oct.—Mr Nixon, Vice-President of the United States, arrived in Saigon and had discussions with Mr Nguyen Van Tam, the Viet-Nam Prime Minister.

French Union forces fell back on the advanced Franco-Viet-Nam base of Lai Cac after a violent clash with elements of the Viet-Minh 320th Division, some sixty miles south of Hanoi.

1 Nov.—Mr Nixon had discussions with the Emperor Bao Dai.

3 Nov.—Franco-Viet-Nam forces were reported to be engaged in fierce fighting around Phu Nho Quan, a small town about sixty miles south-west of Hanoi held by the Viet-Minh 320th Division.

Indo-China (*continued*)

4 Nov.—Mr Nixon said at a dinner in Hanoi: 'We think that there can in no case be any negotiation (with the Viet-Minh) whose sole effect would be the enslavement of a free and independent nation'. He said he was full of hope since his visit and he thought a turning point had been reached at which aggression would begin to be turned back.

IRAQ. 22 Oct.—Gift to Jordan for Home Guard, and King Feisal's gift for rebuilding of Qibya (*see Jordan*).

IRELAND, NORTHERN. 23 Oct.—**General Election.** Results of the previous day's polling were announced as follows: Unionist, 313 seats; Nationalist 4; Eire Labour, 1; Independent Unionist, 1; Independent Labour, 1. Voting for the four Queen's University seats had not closed.

ISRAEL. 22 Oct.—**Jordan.** An Army statement accused Jordanians of mining the Jerusalem-Haifa railway track on the night of 21 October, causing the derailment of a goods train but no casualties. A protest had been made to the Mixed Armistice Commission.

Great Britain. In a Note to Britain the Government rejected the British protest against the Jewish raid on Qibya (*see p. 644*), declaring that the Note had attempted to 'tear the incident from its context' whereas it had come about as a sequel to a long series of murderous attacks by armed bands from Jordan. The Note asked Britain to exert more pressure on Jordan to exercise more control in border areas to prevent attacks on Israeli settlements. It rejected the British charge that regular Israeli forces had been engaged in the attack on Qibya.

The Government asked for a meeting of the Mixed Armistice Commission to investigate reported Jordan troop concentrations in frontier areas where such concentrations were forbidden under the armistice.

23 Oct.—An Army spokesman said that the Mixed Armistice Commission had found Jordan guilty of the mining and derailling of an Israeli goods train which it had described as extreme violation of the armistice.

25 Oct.—In an address opening the conference of world Jewry, Mr Ben Gurion, Prime Minister, appealed to the Security Council to have the courage to 'tell Israel and the Arab States to sit down together and make peace'. He spoke bitterly of the failure of the United Nations and the three western Powers during the past five years to enforce, or at least encourage, peace in the area.

27 Oct.—U.N. report to Security Council on Qibya raid (*see U.N. Security Council*).

28 Oct.—**Dispute with Syria.** It was announced that instructions had been given to stop work on the hydro-electric project in the demilitarized zone along the Israel-Syrian border in order to facilitate the Security Council's consideration of the question.

29 Oct.—**World Zionist Movement.** A conference of the World Zionist Movement, called at Jerusalem to consider Israel's economic

needs, resolved unanimously to increase the united Jewish appeal donations and the Israel bond purchases to \$125 m.—the amount which the Finance Minister, Mr Eschkol, estimated would be required annually until 1960 when it was estimated the population should have reached 2 m. During this seven-year period Israel would try to carry out an extensive development programme, including a trebling of the electric power supply, irrigation of an additional 460,000 acres, development of communications, exploitation of mineral resources, and the building of about 200 new villages.

30 Oct.—Jordan waters dispute (*see United Nations, Security Council*).

2 Nov.—Jordan complaint *re* sabotage of water pipe line (*see Jordan*).

Czech Sentences. The Foreign Ministry announced that two Israeli citizens arrested in Czechoslovakia in December 1951, Shimon Orenstein and Mordechai Oren, had been sentenced, the former to life imprisonment and the latter to fifteen years. They were charged with treason and espionage. Oren had been named as a witness in the Slansky trial.

ITALY. 24 Oct. Trieste. The Government disclosed that on 22 October it had informed the three western Powers of its readiness to withdraw Italian armed forces eight miles from Italy's eastern frontier provided Yugoslavia did the same. It had also intimated its readiness to cancel all other military security measures ordered during the past week, including the movement of five divisions to the frontier area. It was stated in official quarters that the offer was intended as a conciliatory gesture designed to eliminate suspicion in Rome and Belgrade.

25 Oct.—Yugoslav reaction to Italian proposal (*see Yugoslavia*).

27 Oct.—**Italian-Soviet Trade Agreement.** A one-year trade agreement with Russia was signed in Rome.

3 Nov.—**Yugoslav Protest.** The Yugoslav Minister, Mr Gregoric, delivered a Note of protest against the suspension of export licences for certain goods—particularly refined petrol—destined for Yugoslavia and also against 'serious infringements' of the Italo-Yugoslav trade agreement. Signor Dominedó, the Foreign Under-Secretary, after accepting the Note, informed Mr Gregoric that the trade restrictions had been dictated by the need to prevent the export of strategic materials to Yugoslavia at a time when Yugoslavia was 'maintaining mobilization measures' along the frontier. He said they were temporary and would no longer be necessary when the situation on the frontier had been restored.

JAPAN. 26 Oct.—**Commonwealth Forces.** An agreement was signed giving Japan criminal jurisdiction over members of Commonwealth forces in Japan. The agreement was similar to that between the United States and Japan. Both were due to come into force on 29 October.

U.S. Loan (*see United States*).

29 Oct.—**Retrenchment.** The Finance Minister told the Diet that in order to arrest inflationary trends retrenchment would be the keynote

Japan (*continued*)

both to the current year's supplementary budget and to the next year's regular budget.

Chinese-Japanese trade agreement (*see China*).

30 Oct.—U.S.-Japanese military agreement (*see United States*).

31 Oct.—Release of prisoners of war in Russia (*see U.S.S.R.*).

1 Nov.—**Persia.** Renewal of relations (*see Persia*).

3 Nov.—**South Korea.** The Diet passed unanimously a resolution protesting against the 'Rhee line' prohibiting fishing by non-Koreans within sixty miles of the South Korean coast. It called on the Government to take 'proper measures' to settle the dispute with South Korea.

JORDAN. **22 Oct.**—Israeli charge of derailing train (*see Israel*).

Iraq. It was announced that Iraq had given Jordan the equivalent of £150,000 towards the Jordan Home Guard and that King Feisal of Iraq had offered a personal gift of £10,000 towards the rebuilding of Qibya.

23 Oct.—**Arab League.** The Arab League political committee met in Amman after members had inspected the damage caused at Qibya and other villages by the Israeli attack of 15 October.

Fawzi el Mulki, Prime Minister, stated after the meeting that the Committee had adopted defensive, financial, and political resolutions in connection with the existing situation, and especially in regard to the protection of border villages.

A Government spokesman denied Israeli reports of Jordanian manoeuvres near the frontier.

Arab Legion H.Q. asserted that between 18–20 October eight Israeli reconnaissance aircraft had flown over Jordan.

25 Oct.—Arab Legion H.Q. claimed that on 22 October an Israeli aircraft had flown over the Jordan section of Jerusalem and the demilitarized zone on Mount Scopus and had dropped a package weighing about 200 lb. near the Hadasseh hospital. It stated that such action was a gross breach of the agreement on Mount Scopus.

Lt.-Gen. Sir Charles Keightly, Commander of British Forces in the Middle East, arrived in Amman.

26 Oct.—Arab League statement on financial aid (*see Arab League*).

27 Oct.—U.N. Report to Security Council on Qibya raid (*see U.N. Security Council*).

Statement on Arab League decision (*see Lebanon*).

1 Nov.—In his speech from the Throne at the opening of Parliament King Hussein declared that there would be no peace with the Jews and no slackness in defending refugees' rights in recovering their homes and properties. Referring to Jewish border aggression, he said this had made his Government take successful defensive measures and plan a practical defensive policy in co-operation with sister countries.

2 Nov.—It was announced that the pipe line from Ein Fara supplying most of the water for the Jordan half of Jerusalem had been shattered by a time bomb at a point in the demilitarized zone 600 yards north of

Mount Scopus. A complaint had been made to the U.N. acting Chief of Staff.

KENYA. 26 Oct.—Emergency Figures. Figures for the week ended 24 October showed that 103 Mau-Mau were killed and twenty-two captured. Security forces casualties were: four Africans killed and four Africans and one European wounded.

29 Oct.—Budget. Mr Vasey, Finance Minister, presented in the Legislature the budget estimates for the first six months of 1954 in which expenditure was calculated at £12.5 m., including a provision of £2 m. towards the cost of the emergency. He pointed out that by June 1954 revenue balances would have decreased in eighteen months from almost £9 m. to £4,750,000 and said that reserves could not stand the strain much longer. Money which it had been hoped to spend on development was no longer there, and any decision relating to future development and reconstruction programmes must be dependent on the extent of financial aid from the U.K. Government which he would be discussing in London. Mr Vasey posed the problem whether the colony's money should be spent on short-term production, such as water development, agriculture, roads, and industrial development, which would bring an earlier return and a higher standard of living or whether it should be spent on long-term productive projects such as education and forestry. He said that if adequate financial help were not available from the United Kingdom the rate of economic and social progress could be maintained and the non-productive part of the development programme could be carried out by means of very heavy taxation. The great danger was that if the burden of taxation did not provide a fair return the flow of capital would dwindle to a mere trickle. The alternative was to increase taxation only to a point where a minimum range of social services could be maintained. This would involve, *inter alia*, slowing down the educational programme and it might create bitter discontent among certain peoples. But Mr Vasey thought that in the end it would provide a surer foundation for future progress than a policy which would drive away the external investor and almost certainly lead to a decrease in prosperity and a reduction in social services in the future.

3 Nov.—Gen. Erskine's H.Q. estimated that about 2,000 terrorists had been driven from the Aberdare mountain area in the preceding three months.

Emergency Figures. It was announced that in the week ending 31 October seventy-five terrorists were killed and thirty-five captured. Security forces lost two Africans killed; one European and two Asians were wounded.

KOREA. 22 Oct.—At a meeting of the Neutral Nations' Repatriation Commission the Polish and Czech representatives again insisted that the Commission should produce North Korean prisoners for explanations, even at the cost of shooting the ringleaders. The Swiss and Swedish

Korea (continued)

members declined to be a party to such violence and Gen. Thimayya, the Indian chairman, supported them.

The Chinese prisoner who was 'grilled' for nearly three hours on 17 October decided to be repatriated.

The Repatriation Commission protested to the U.N. Command against the conduct of a United States observer who had 'grossly insulted' a Polish member of one of the Commission's subordinate bodies. It asked that the observer be punished and that steps be taken to prevent a recurrence of such incidents.

23 Oct.—Casualty Figures. Final war casualty figures were issued in the United States. They gave total U.N. casualties (including dead, wounded, missing, and captured) as 1,474,269. U.S. casualties totalled 144,173; South Korean 1,312,836; British 5,017; and other Commonwealth countries 3,144. Total Communist casualties were estimated at 1,540,000, of which Chinese were estimated at 900,000, and North Korean at 520,000.

26 Oct.—Talks on Political Conference. Talks between U.N. and Communist envoys on the proposed Korean political conference opened in Panmunjom. Mr Ki Sok-Bok of North Korea proposed an agenda as follows: (1) composition of the conference; (2) the question of time and place; (3) procedural matters; (4) administrative matters; (5) expenditure. Mr Arthur Dean (United States) suggested that the conference should open on 23 November and he said that Communist views would be welcomed on the U.N. suggestions of Honolulu, San Francisco, or Geneva as the site of the conference. Mr Hwang Hwa (China) urged that as the conference would not be concerned with purely military matters its composition should include neutral nations as well as the two belligerent sides.

U.S. charge against Russia of inflicting torture to extract germ warfare confessions (*see U.N. General Assembly—Political Committee*).

27 Oct.—During the U.N.-Communist negotiations on the political conference Mr Dean quoted from the armistice agreement to support his contention that the clear intention of both sides at the time of the signing of the armistice was to restrict the political conference to belligerents and that therefore unless the armistice agreement were amended by mutual consent the conference should be restricted to belligerents. He said he had no authority from the U.N. General Assembly or any other source to discuss the composition of the conference, and he added that if neutral nations were invited there was a danger that the conference would be turned into a debating society.

28 Oct.—When the delegates met to discuss arrangements for the political conference, Mr Ki Sok-Bok argued that Russia, not being a belligerent should be regarded as a neutral and should be invited by the consent of both sides. Mr Dean replied that Mr Vyshinsky had admitted in February that Russia had supplied war material to the Communist side and that therefore she could not be considered a neutral but could only be admitted as a Communist nominee.

The neutral repatriation commission discussed the incidence of

crime and violence within the prisoners' compounds. (Eighteen deaths by violence had occurred within the compounds since Indian troops took charge.)

29 Oct.—At the U.S.-Communist talks, Mr Dean proposed that the meeting should proceed to discuss the items on the agenda already agreed upon, such as the time, place, and procedure of the political conference before reverting to the composition issue. The North Korean delegate replied with a prepared statement defending Russia's neutrality and demanding an apology from Mr Dean for having 'slandered' Russia.

The neutral commission asked the Communist Command to produce from among repatriated prisoners witnesses who could give evidence regarding crimes and violence committed in the compounds.

Two Korean prisoners of war escaped from a Communist-controlled compound and asked to be repatriated to South Korea.

South Korea. A South Korean spokesman accused Japan of adopting an 'arrogant and aggressive' attitude which he held to be responsible for the recent breakdown of the South Korean-Japanese talks.

30 Oct.—Prisoners. Gen. Thimayya announced that North Korean prisoners had agreed to appear before Communist 'explainers'.

Political Conference. The North Korean spokesman at the discussions on the political conference refused to agree to Mr Dean's suggestion and insisted on further discussion of the inclusion of neutrals at the conference.

31 Oct.—Prisoners. A batch of North Korean prisoners finally submitted to Communist 'explanations'. They displayed violent anti-Communist feelings and had to be restrained from attacking the Communist explainers by Indian guards. Only 21 out of 459 chose to be repatriated.

1 Nov.—Two Chinese Communist prisoners were taken to a compound by representatives of the neutral commission to give evidence in an investigation of a murder charge brought by two former prisoners from the compound. The men in the compound were so violent as they filed past and the inmates of the adjacent compounds became so excited and hostile that the investigation had to be called off.

Alleged Breach of Armistice. A neutral inspection team reported that it had found no evidence that the Communists had brought crated combat aircraft into North Korea since the armistice.

2 Nov.—Prisoners. When the investigation into an alleged murder in a compound was resumed a Chinese prisoner who attempted to leave his tent was shot dead by Indian troops after being warned. The two Communist witnesses picked out seven men as the principal accused but the body was not found. In another incident six prisoners from the same compound and nine from other compounds threw themselves before the Indian guards asking to be repatriated. Six of them were held as witnesses and the other nine were handed over to the Communists.

3 Nov.—Prisoners. Another 483 North Korean prisoners appeared before explainers, but only nineteen chose to go home. Before the individual interviews Communist explainers broadcast for an hour

Korea (continued)

through loud speakers to the holding enclosure, but the appeals were drowned by mass singing and shouting by the prisoners.

Political Conference. At the U.S.-Communist negotiations Mr Dean proposed a 'flexible' agenda for the conference which would allow discussion of the place, time, and composition of the conference to be discussed without committing the United Nations to prior acceptance of the inclusion of neutrals.

4 Nov.—Mr Dean suggested to the Communists that the time, place, and composition of the conference should be discussed simultaneously by separate sub-committees.

Prisoners. Three out of 205 Chinese prisoners interviewed chose to be repatriated but the neutral supervisors declined to repatriate one of the three, declaring him to be mentally incompetent. He was sent to hospital.

U.S. tribute to Indians in Korea (*see India*).

LEBANON. 27 Oct.—Arab Defence. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that the Arab League Political Committee, at its meeting on 23 October in Amman (*see Jordan*), had approved in principle Lebanese proposals for a joint Arab defence plan to combat Israeli attacks. The spokesman said that the plan provided for joint Arab defence responsibility and a joint defence fund to which Arab States would contribute from their defence budgets. In addition, oil producing countries—Saudi Arabia and Iraq—would contribute 10 per cent of oil royalties (estimated at about £20 m. a year), and Lebanon and Syria would contribute 10 per cent of royalties derived from the piping of oil through their territories.

2 Nov.—United States. Mr Eric Johnston, personal representative of President Eisenhower, had talks on the development of the River Jordan with Kemal Shamoun, the President, Abdullah Yaffi, Prime Minister, Alfred Nacaache, Foreign Minister, and Adel Osseiran, president of the Chamber of Deputies. Adel Osseiran said later that Mr Johnston had informed him that America was prepared to give the Lebanon economic aid if she accepted the Jordan waters plan (*see p. 663*). He had replied that the Palestine issue must be settled first on a just and humanitarian basis.

MALAYA. 27 Oct.—United States. After a short visit to Malaya, Vice-President Nixon of the United States promised that Malaya's problems would be brought to the attention of the U.S. Government and would be taken into consideration in long-term decisions affecting rubber and tin production. He said the U.S. Administration would definitely place synthetic rubber production in private hands.

28 Oct.—Aircraft dropped 18 m. leaflets calling on terrorists to surrender and offering rewards to any person below the rank of State committee member who surrendered with five or more persons.

1 Nov.—It was announced that security forces had killed William Kwok, a Communist leader responsible for much of the party's propaganda.

3 Nov.—The Federation Government announced that the Government of Brunei had offered the Federation a loan of \$40 m. (Malayan) under terms and conditions to be decided after consultation. The High Commissioner had accepted the offer and expressed warm thanks for the gesture of friendship.

NEW ZEALAND. 23 Oct.—**Defence Talks.** Field-Marshal Sir John Harding, C.I.G.S., arrived in Auckland for defence talks.

ORGANIZATION FOR EUROPEAN ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION. 29 Oct.—**Great Britain.** Opening a meeting of the Council in Paris, Mr Butler, British Chancellor of the Exchequer, announced the U.K. Government's decision to free from quantitative restriction 75 per cent of her imports from other O.E.E.C. countries (instead of the existing 58 per cent) and to raise the annual foreign travel allowance from £40 to £50. Mr Butler emphasized that the decision was not an easy one as the United Kingdom was still a substantial debtor to the European Payments Union, but it was inspired by U.K. membership of O.E.E.C. and the 'desire to be good Europeans'. He was against a proposal of the Secretary-General to name a date limit for total liberalization and suggested that, while all members should reaffirm their adherence to the principle of total liberalization, each country should seek, within the next few months, to justify to O.E.E.C. the quantitative restrictions it wished to retain for reasons other than those of the balance of payments.

France. M. Faure, French Finance Minister, announced that his Government had decided to raise 'at some future date' the proportion of liberalized trade from 8 to 20 per cent of all private imports.

Austria. Dr Gruber (Austria) announced the raising of the Austrian figure from 35 to 50 per cent.

30 Oct.—The meeting of the Council in Paris ended with the adoption of resolutions which stated: (1) That the Council should meet before 1 April to decide, on the basis of investigations to be made, what further steps should be taken to remove quantitative trade restrictions between member countries. (The resolution mentioned that France had not yet achieved 75 per cent liberalization and asked her to report by March 1954 what steps she had taken towards that end.) It was decided that the steering board should consider in the meantime the case put forward by countries wishing to maintain restrictions for reasons other than balance of payments difficulties. (2) That O.E.E.C. should submit, for the Council's consideration, suggestions on how to relax quantitative restrictions on dollar imports. (3) That progress by members towards convertibility should not be achieved at the expense of continued liberalization of intra-European trade and payments, and that the managing board of E.P.U. should examine the problem which would arise if one or more European currencies were made convertible. (4) That the managing board of E.P.U. should submit by 1 March 1954 proposals for the conditions under which E.P.U. should continue. (5) That an expansion in production was needed in western Europe.

Organization for European Economic Co-operation (*continued*) and that this could best be achieved by countries moving forward in line together and that it was necessary for members to continue consultations regarding the problem that would be posed by a steady expansion of production. (6) That Governments should eliminate as far as possible restrictive rules and formalities impeding the free movement of workers in Europe.

The Council also agreed to set up an Advisory Board on European Productivity.

PAKISTAN. 29 Oct.—Principles of State Policy. The Constituent Assembly adopted principles of State policy which laid down that the State should: direct its policy towards securing for citizens the right to work and have adequate means of livelihood and the right to rest and leisure; make provision for securing just and human conditions of work and maternity relief; seek to revise the pay structure of Government servants so as to reduce disparity to a reasonable minimum; promote international peace and security; maintain just and honourable relations between nations and encourage the settlement of disputes through arbitration. A clause added that the principles would not be enforceable in any court of law.

2 Nov.—Republican Status. The Constituent Assembly decided that Pakistan should become a Republic to be known as the 'Islamic Republic of Pakistan'. Before the decision was announced Mr Chattopadhyaya, leader of the Congress Party, read out a statement explaining why he and his followers had decided to take no further part in the discussions of the basic principles committee. He objected that the Hindu claim that Hindu personal laws would not be interfered with or declared void on the ground that they were repugnant to the Koran or the Sunna had been denied, and he declared that the proposal that the head of the State should be a Muslim trampled on the principle of equal rights for all citizens and implied an inferior status for non-Muslims. He also objected that both the proposal to divide citizens into five separate electorates with the Hindus subdivided into two electorates and the method proposed for arriving at decisions in the House were undemocratic. After he had read the statement the Hindu members and two members of the scheduled caste walked out of the Assembly. Mr Chattopadhyaya later told the press: 'This is an attempt to make Pakistan a theocratic State against all the principles of democracy and a device to drive all self-respecting non-Muslims from the country.'

Mr Brohi, Law Minister, said Hindu fears were unwarranted. The Muslim League was ready to legislate later for the protection of minorities.

3 Nov.—The Constituent Assembly decided that finance Bills would not be subject to the provision in the new Constitution that legislation must be in accordance with Islamic laws. It also decided that a commission should be appointed after twenty-five years to review the position regarding finance Bills.

4 Nov.—The Constituent Assembly decided that future Prime

Ministers must be chosen from members of the Legislature and must, with their Ministers, seek a vote of confidence within two months of appointment. It also decided that the Cabinet should be responsible to the House of the People.

PERSIA. 22 Oct. Great Britain. It was announced that the Rev. Norman Sharp, whose expulsion had been ordered by the former Government, had been allowed to return to Shiraz to resume his missionary work. The decision was a result of representations to the Prime Minister by the British Government.

25 Oct.—The Shah resumed the distribution of Crown lands by handing ownership deeds to 1,600 Takestani peasants, each of whom was allotted $3\frac{1}{2}$ hectares. The peasants were to make token payments of 45 rials (about £5) a year for twenty-five years.

The Shah ordered the release of 100 Communist prisoners to mark his birthday (26 October).

26 Oct.—In an open letter to the Prime Minister published in the press, Mr Makki attacked Gen. Zahedi's propaganda department for its 'biased attitude' towards the nationalist movement and accused the Government of detaining people under martial law and releasing them after extracting money from them. He opposed a re-establishment of relations with Britain on the ground that the British would settle the oil issue in their own interests and not according to the nationalization law. He also denounced the idea of dissolving the Majlis and was opposed to the Government conducting the oil talks.

27 Oct.—The press reported prominently the British decision to despatch twenty-four locomotives and to leave it to Persia to pay when convenient.

The Swiss Minister handed to Gen. Zahedi a copy of Mr Eden's statement on Persia in his speech of 20 October.

Oil. The Government's oil commission handed to Gen. Zahedi a report on its talks with Mr Hoover, oil consultant to the U.S. State Department.

28 Oct.—Mr Amidi Nuri, Government spokesman and assistant to the Prime Minister, referred to Mr Eden's statement and said that the Government aimed at friendly relations with all countries and that no particular enmity existed between the Persian and British Governments or between the two peoples. The oil question was strictly economic and had assumed its existing form because of inexperience on the part of Persian and British officials. The Government would solve the problem within the nationalization law and equitably. The Government would prepare a courteous reply to Mr Eden's remarks, hoping that an oil settlement would lead to the re-establishment of relations.

Mr Nuri released the text of a letter sent to Dr Musaddiq in July by the directors of the National Iranian Oil Company in which they drew attention to the rapidly deteriorating condition of the various plants and the imminent suspension of transport services for lack of spare parts, adding a demand for \$10 m. Mr Nuri said that Dr Musaddiq

Persia (continued)

had ignored the letter, but the new Government was determined to stop the rot and utilize the nation's wealth.

31 Oct.—Great Britain. Mr Entezam, Foreign Minister, issued a statement saying that oil differences existed only between the Government and the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company and that, in removing such differences, principles, national prestige, and honour must be respected and principles of justice considered. As soon as these preliminary arrangements were made there would be no obstacle to the resumption of diplomatic relations. The Government would 'like to presume that there is no major difference' between the two Governments which could not be solved. Mr Eden's speech was appreciated and regarded as 'a sign of a new policy and the beginning of a new chapter of friendly relations'.

1 Nov.—Japan. The Government announced the end of the state of war with Japan and a renewal of diplomatic relations.

3 Nov.—Mullah Kashani declared in a broadcast that the oil problem must be solved but any deviation from the nationalization law would not be approved by the nation.

The Prime Minister announced that State-owned land would be distributed among workers and peasants on the same lines as Crown land.

The military Governor of Tehran announced the defeat of a pro-Musaddiq Communist-inspired plot for a nation-wide strike to start on 6 November. He said that since the new Government came to power 208 Communist centres had been discovered and 203,000 Communist books and pamphlets and forty-two rifles seized. His announcement also said that 812 persons were still in prison charged with Communism or subversive activity.

POLAND. 23 Oct.—Danish protest (see Denmark).

28 Oct.—Espionage. It was announced that a military court at Olsztyn had sentenced one man to death and two others to fifteen and twelve years' imprisonment respectively for espionage, subversive activity, and robbery.

RHODESIA AND NYASALAND. 23 Oct.—The federal Constitution came into force.

30 Oct.—The interim federal Government took over control of external affairs from the three territorial Governments.

31 Oct.—Northern Rhodesia. The copper-mining companies announced their intention of introducing 'very shortly' a non-contributory pension scheme for all workers.

3 Nov.—Sir Godfrey Huggins, Prime Minister and leader of the United Party, rejected an appeal for a three-year truce on Native affairs in the Federation which had been sent to political organizations by a group of well-known Rhodesians. It had suggested that a commission should try to solve certain problems and formulate a workable Native policy.

RUMANIA. 3 Nov.—Government Reorganization. Bucharest Radio announced the merging of the three Ministries of Agriculture, Forests, and State farms into a single Ministry of Agriculture and Forests under Mr Georghe Apostol. The announcement said that the three displaced Ministers—Mr Prisnea, Mr Vidrascu, and Mr Popescu would be given other posts.

SIAM. 29 Oct.—Chinese Nationalist Forces in Burma. The evacuation committee in Bangkok, representing Siam, Nationalist China, and the United States, announced that Burma had agreed to a cease-fire until 15 November so as to allow about 2,000 Chinese Nationalist forces to be evacuated to Siam en route for Formosa. It said that Nationalist China had promised to disown any troops remaining after the evacuation.

The Thai Government announced that it had ordered 'appropriate action' against any aircraft violating its north-east frontier with Burma. The warning was said to be directed against Burmese aircraft which had crossed the frontier during operations against the Chinese Nationalists.

SOUTH AFRICA. 26 Oct.—Bishops' Statement on Apartheid. The Bishops of the Church of the province of South Africa issued a statement declaring it to be their belief that racial discrimination as practised in South Africa was morally wrong in that it aimed at keeping a particular racial group in a position of inferiority.

27 Oct.—Apartheid Policy: Report of U.N. Commission (see U.N. General Assembly).

29 Oct.—United Party. The Transvaal Congress of the United Party, meeting in Pretoria, passed with acclamation a resolution of confidence in, and loyalty to, Mr Strauss's leadership.

SPAIN. 29 Oct.—In an address to about 125,000 Falangists in Madrid Gen. Franco declared that the Falange would continue to form the vanguard of the regime. He said Spain had emerged triumphantly from the international conspiracy to isolate her and could offer not a begging but a friendly hand to a great Power in a firm alliance against the Communist menace.

1 Nov.—Report of Spanish-U.S. agreement (see *United States*).

Labour Decree. The Ministry of Labour issued a decree requiring a *jurado de empresa* (council of employer and employed) to be set up in all commercial undertakings employing more than fifty persons in any one place of business. The councils, which were to be advisory, were to consist of the owner or manager as chairman and from four to twelve employees. As a start and by way of experiment, the decree was to apply immediately only to undertakings having 1,000 or more persons on the pay-roll on 1 January 1953.

2 Nov.—United States. Following a tour of airfields and sites suitable for their construction, Mr Talbott, Secretary of the U.S. Air Force, told the press in Madrid that the United States intended to strengthen Spain's defences as fast as possible. Spanish staff and

Spain (continued)

resources would be used at the air bases wherever possible. American material would be made permanently available to Spain.

SUDAN. 2 Nov.—Elections. The primary elections began in two constituencies in southern Sudan.

SYRIA. 25 Oct.—President Shishekly opened the first session of the new Parliament (the first to be elected since his advent to power). After referring to the Qibya incident (*see p. 651*), he said the Palestine problem would not be solved until Arab rights were restored.

30 Oct.—Jordan waters dispute (*see United Nations, Security Council*).

TRIESTE FREE TERRITORY. 26 Oct.—The last party of British servicemen's wives and children left Trieste.

27 Oct.—Signor De Felice, an Italian neo-Fascist (M.S.I.) deputy, left Zone A on the advice of the Allied Military Government.

3 Nov.—In defiance of an order of the Allied Military Government the Italian flag was flown on the Trieste town hall to commemorate the Italian landing of 1918. It was immediately confiscated by a police officer. A group of about 500 Italian youths marched through the streets, waving flags and shouting slogans but they were ignored by the population.

4 Nov.—Riots. Rioting began in Trieste when thousands of Triestini returned from a ceremony across the Italian frontier at Redipuglia held to commemorate Italians killed in the first world war. Neo-Fascist youths from Italy filtered into the city with the crowds and started the demonstrations which had an anti-British character. British army cars and soldiers were stoned, windows of the British cinema were smashed, and an attempt was made to hoist the Italian flag again over the town hall. Police clashed with the rioters and used truncheons and rifle butts against those who assaulted them. Twelve persons were arrested.

TUNISIA. 28 Oct.—Relaxation of Emergency Measures. M. Voizard, Resident-General, announced that police powers transferred to the military by his predecessor would be restored to the civil authority except at Gafsa and to the south of Gabes where banditry was still rife. He also announced the ending of censorship (though attacks against the person of the Bey and the French Republic would not be allowed); the lifting of the curfew in certain areas; and the release of twenty-two of the eighty persons interned.

UNITED NATIONS**Economic Commission for Europe**

26 Oct.—East-West Trade. It was learned that Dr Myrdal, Executive Secretary of the E.C.E., had proposed to the Governments of west and east European States and to the U.S. Government that talks on east-west trade should be re-opened in the spring of 1954.

Food and Agriculture Organization

2 Nov.—The F.A.O. issued its report for 1952-3 together with a separate report on the technical assistance programme.

General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade

23 Oct.—**Japan.** At their meeting in Geneva the contracting parties decided by 26 votes to none with 6 abstentions (United Kingdom; Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, Southern Rhodesia, and Czechoslovakia) to allow Japan to become an unofficial and temporary partner in the Agreement with the right to attend, but not to vote at, G.A.T.T. meetings. Any countries wishing to sign a declaration to that effect would be bound to trade with Japan on G.A.T.T. principles of no discrimination; those not signing might in principle discriminate against Japan and Japan against them. Japan was given until 30 June 1955 to complete any tariff negotiations and qualify to apply for full adherence to the Agreement.

Schuman Plan Countries. The meeting endorsed the opinion of a committee that the six Schuman Plan countries were adhering faithfully to the waivers from G.A.T.T. granted them to enable them to abolish duties between themselves and to impose quantitative restrictions on the movement of coal and steel within their own areas. (An assurance had been given by the six countries that they would negotiate with others to ensure that there would be 'equitable' prices for Schuman Plan products in outside markets.)

24 Oct.—**Concession to Britain.** The contracting parties decided by 26 votes to none with 7 abstentions (France, Italy, Netherlands, Denmark, Czechoslovakia, Indonesia, and Burma) to adopt a declaration granting the United Kingdom a waiver allowing her to increase duties on imports from non-Commonwealth countries without having to apply the increase to similar goods from inside the Commonwealth. The waiver was made subject to the conditions (1) that it should apply only in respect of goods traditionally imported duty free from the Commonwealth, and (2) that it would not result in the diversion of trade to the detriment of any contracting party. Britain had also to undertake to consult any countries against whom she proposed raising a tariff and to submit the case to arbitration in the event of doubt on any point.

Australia. A waiver was granted to Australia permitting her to import duty free any goods on the G.A.T.T. bound list which were produced in Papua and that part of New Guinea under Australian trusteeship, on the assurance that the concession would not be used to damage the trade of any contracting country.

General Assembly

27 Oct.—**South African Racial Policy.** The commission appointed by the General Assembly to inquire into the racial problem in South Africa published a report which expressed the view that the existing *apartheid* policy in South Africa affected the non-white population's most fundamental rights and freedoms, gave rise to serious internal

United Nations (continued)

conflicts, and maintained increasing tension. Examples of discriminatory measures were cited. The report suggested a round-table conference of all races in South Africa to consider ways of peacefully solving the problem. The commission consisted of Senor Santa Cruz of Chile, M. Laugier of France, and M. Bellegarde of Haiti.

3 Nov.—Morocco. The compromise proposals on Morocco (*see* p. 662) failed to secure a two-thirds majority, the vote on the operative paragraph of the Bolivian resolution, as amended by India, being 32 in favour, 22 against, and 5 abstentions. France boycotted the session.

Germ Warfare. The Assembly endorsed the Political Committee's decision to refer to the Disarmament Commission the Russian draft urging States to ratify the Geneva protocol on bacterial weapons. It declined to vote on the draft.

U.N. Staff. Mr Hammarskjöld submitted a report to the Assembly in which he requested extensive new powers for the dismissal of U.N. employees. He also asked for the appropriation of \$179,420 to pay indemnities to eleven Americans dismissed from his staff.

General Assembly—Administrative Committee

22 Oct.—Members' Contributions. The Committee approved a reassessment of member States' contributions, according to which the U.S. contribution was reduced by 1.79 per cent to 33½ per cent, the British was reduced by a few points to 10.4 per cent, and the Russian increased by 1.87 per cent to 14.15 per cent. The Russian delegate objected to the increase, saying that it ignored the criteria laid down by the Assembly that the assessment should have some relation to capacity to pay, war damage, and the ability to secure U.S. dollars.

General Assembly—Political Committee

26 Oct.—Tunisia. The main part of the Asian-Arab proposals on Tunisia calling for termination of martial law, a political amnesty, and free elections to nominate Tunisians to negotiate with the French Government were rejected by narrow margins, and the Committee adopted by 29 votes to 22, with 5 abstentions, a resolution asking that all necessary steps, including direct Franco-Tunisian negotiations, be taken to ensure for Tunisians their right to full sovereignty and independence. Britain and the United States opposed, and France boycotted the debate.

Korea: Germ Warfare Charges. The U.S. delegate laid before the Committee a document, accompanied by affidavits from U.S. airmen, which stated that captured American airmen in Korea had been tortured under the direction of Russian personnel to make them confess to waging germ warfare. It said that Russian-trained Communists had continued to inflict suffering on Americans long after the signing of the armistice.

28 Oct.—Mr Lloyd (U.K.) said that Russia's proposal that all States should ratify the Geneva protocol for the prohibition of bacterial weapons was designed to distract attention from Russia's refusal to

submit her germ warfare charges to impartial investigation. He said he had not the slightest doubt that the statements of returned officers were true and that 'the so-called confessions were a tissue of lies extracted by all the refinements of totalitarian torture'. He urged that as the falsity of the germ warfare charges had been proved they should now be consigned to oblivion.

30 Oct.—Korea: Germ Warfare. Mr Williams (U.K.) suggested that the proper place to discuss the Soviet proposal would be in the Disarmament Commission. He said that, given co-operation by all parties, the Commission could work out a plan for the control of all weapons of mass destruction, including bacterial warfare. He pointed out that only limited security could be assured by the signing of the Geneva Protocol since the Soviet Government had only to declare that its opponents were using bacterial weapons to be completely released from its obligations under the Protocol.

31 Oct.—The Committee decided by 47 votes to none with 13 abstentions to refer to the Disarmament Commission the Soviet proposal that all States be urged to ratify the Geneva protocol on bacteriological weapons.

Korea Atrocity Charges. Mr Malik (U.S.S.R.) described the U.S. allegation that Soviet officers were present at the interrogation of allied prisoners in Korea as a 'big lie'. He said the United States was intent on keeping up the armaments race and this accounted for her present emphasis on atrocities (*see also Steering Committee*).

Chinese Nationalists in Burma. It was reported to the Committee that, thanks to persistent U.S. efforts, 2,000 of the Chinese Nationalists in Burma and their dependants would leave for Formosa via Siam early in December. It was also indicated that the rest declined to obey orders from Formosa. The Burmese delegate said he was not satisfied with this position and did not believe in the good faith of the Chinese Nationalist Government. He suggested that the whole problem would be solved if the United States threatened to suspend aid to the Nationalist Government. The Chinese Nationalist delegate said his Government was ready to receive more than the 2,000 if they could be persuaded or coerced into leaving Burma. He emphasized that it had undertaken to disavow all forces which remained and said they would not be supplied from Formosa.

2 Nov.—Mr Selwyn Lloyd (U.K.) welcomed the promised removal of 2,000 Chinese Nationalists but observed that 10,000 more would remain and he urged member States to do all in their power to close sources of supply to these irregulars. He also shared Burmese concern at the apparent intention of the Nationalist Government to wash its hands of the problem once the 2,000 were repatriated.

4 Nov.—The U.S. delegate announced that the United States had signed a contract to move the 2,000 Chinese Nationalists out of Burma by air to Formosa.

General Assembly—Steering Committee

2 Nov.—Korea Atrocity Charges. The Committee decided by

United Nations (continued)

12 votes to 2, against Russian objections, to discuss the United States charges against the Communists of atrocities in Korea (*see United States, 28 and 30 October*). At the suggestion of Mr Selwyn Lloyd (U.K.) it was agreed that the subject should be discussed in plenary session and not in committee.

General Assembly—Trusteeship Committee

23 Oct.—Central African Federation. The Indian delegate, Mrs Menon, requested that the current debate on information transmitted by administering Powers should be kept open in order that the question of central African federation might be discussed. She said that according to American newspaper reports the consequences of the contemplated change in central Africa were more far-reaching than had been thought.

26 Oct.—A motion by Lord Hudson (U.K.) for the closure of the debate was defeated by 8 votes, and Mrs Menon successfully moved that the debate be deferred on the understanding that delegates might open discussion of events in central Africa at any time. Lord Hudson submitted that the Committee had no authority for such a course. He pointed to the distinct difference between trust territories for which administering Powers were accountable to the Assembly, and non-self-governing territories on which limited technical information was transmitted, and said that the British Government had signed and ratified the Charter on that understanding. He gave a warning that if central African federation were made a subject of debate it would 'raise in an acute form the question of the extent to which it would still be useful for my delegation to continue to co-operate'.

Secretariat

25 Oct.—Rights of U.N. Staff. The Federation of International Civil Servants published an advisory opinion on the rights and obligations of international civil servants which had been prepared by Senator Rolin of Belgium with the help of two other members of the Institute of International Law, Professor Parassi of Rome, and Professor Rousseau of Paris. The opinion had been sent to the U.N. Secretary-General for circulation to members and to the Directors-General of the I.L.O. and the W.H.O. According to the opinion, (1) the Secretary-General of the United Nations or the directors of specialized agencies could safely ignore 'derogatory information' supplied by Governments about its nationals applying for posts as international civil servants; (2) there was no incompatibility between being an international employee and a member of a legal political party (the Communist party was still a legal party in most western countries); moreover, even a member of an illegal political party could be employed provided he terminated such membership before joining the organization; (3) an official who invoked the constitutional privileges against self-incrimination did not violate his obligations and could not incur any penalties; (4) only 'proof of unlawful activity' and not mere 'sus-

picion' could lead to discharge of an international official; and (5) none of the staff rules and regulations directly provided that the international civil servants must comply with summonses of judicial and other bodies.

Security Council

27 Oct.—Palestine. Major-Gen. Bennike, Chief of Staff of the U.N. Palestine Truce Organization, presented to the Council a memorandum from the acting chairman of the Mixed Armistice Commission, Commander Hutchinson, U.S.N., who said that the evidence concerning the Qibya raid had convinced him that Israeli military forces had planned and carried out the attack. He estimated that at least 225 men had taken part in the raid and said that fifty-three Arabs were killed and forty dwellings destroyed. Gen. Bennike commented that the Qibya and other raids should be considered as 'culminating points' indicating that tension had increased to breaking point.

30 Oct.—Israeli-Syrian Dispute *re* Jordan Waters. The Syrian delegate denounced the work carried out by Israel on the west bank of the Jordan for its hydro-electric scheme. He declared it to be a violation of the armistice agreement and said that the projected diversion of the Jordan would deprive Arab cultivators of water. He also alleged that the terrorist organization responsible for the murder of Count Bernadotte had agents in New York, and he deprecated the aid flowing from western countries, especially the United States, to Israel.

Mr Eban, Israeli Ambassador in the United States, confirmed that his Government had suspended work on the scheme. He contended that the Jordan at no point flowed through Syrian territory—the nearest point being fifty-four yards from the frontier—and that Syria had no right of veto in such matters. He denied that there was any question of diverting the river bed.

2 Nov.—Trieste. The Council voted by nine to one (U.S.S.R.) with one abstention (Lebanon) to postpone discussion of the Trieste issue for three weeks so as not to impede direct negotiations between the Powers concerned.

UNITED STATES. 22 Oct.—Russian Sea Power. Admiral Carney, Chief of Naval Operations, referred to Russia's new building programme for submarines, merchantmen and every other type of ship and emphasized the importance of the United States retaining control of the seas.

Atlantic Weather Ships. The Government informed the United Nations that it was withdrawing the fourteen weather ships it had been maintaining in the North Atlantic as part of the floating stations operated under the International Civil Aviation Organization.

Atomic Power. In a speech at Chicago, Mr Murray, a member of the Atomic Energy Commission, announced that the Commission had begun a programme to construct a full-scale power reactor which would produce a minimum of 60,000 kilowatts of electrical energy, with good possibilities of much higher output. It was hoped that it would be operating within three or four years. He said that this was America's peaceful answer to Soviet atomic weapon tests.

United States (continued)

25 Oct.—Security Dismissals. The White House announced that 863 federal employees had been dismissed and 593 had resigned since the revised security programme came into force on 27 May.

26 Oct.—Loan to Japan. The Export-Import Bank announced a third loan, of \$60 m., to Japan for purchases of U.S. cotton.

Navy. Mr Anderson, Secretary of the Navy, said that the United States Navy was operating 1,129 ships, 9,940 aircraft, and had three Marine divisions at full strength.

27 Oct.—Trieste. Mr Dulles told the press that a five-Power conference on Trieste, about which talks were being held in Rome and Belgrade, could begin before the allied troops were withdrawn from Zone A and that if the 8 October decision became operative it would replace the 1948 three-Power declaration. He emphasized that the British and United States military authorities were primarily interested in strengthening the security of southern Europe towards which a solution of the Trieste problem would make a great contribution. He also gave a pledge that no plan for the withdrawal of United States troops from Europe was under contemplation and that the United States had no intention of retreating from any commitments in western Europe assumed under N.A.T.O.

28 Oct.—Greece. King Paul and Queen Frederika of Greece arrived in Washington on an official visit.

Korea: Atrocities. The War Crimes Division of the U.S. Army in Korea published a report on Communist atrocities which estimated the numbers of those tortured or massacred in Korea as follows: 6,113 Americans, 10 British, 20 Australians, 6 Belgian, 13 Turks, 5,460 South Korean, 176 South Korean police. The estimated numbers of civilians were: 12,777 South Koreans, 4,399 North Koreans, one Irish and one German priest. Photographs of mutilated bodies and corpses of men burned alive were included in the report.

Israel. President Eisenhower said that it had been decided to resume economic aid to Israel as a result of the Israeli Government's announcement that it would accept the U.N. Truce Commission's findings on the disposition of the River Jordan's waters. Mr Dulles later allocated \$26 m. for economic aid to Israel.

29 Oct.—Atomic Energy. Mr Cole, chairman of the joint congressional committee on atomic energy, suggested in a speech that perhaps it was time to consider the creation of a framework within which America's friends and allies who had a contribution to make to atomic power development could do so effectively and expeditiously.

30 Oct.—Great Britain: Atomic Energy. Sir Christopher Hinton, deputy controller of atomic energy production at the British Ministry of Supply, said in an address to the Industrial Conference Board that a power-producing thermal reactor was being constructed in Britain and it was hoped that in a few years electric power would be supplied to the grid system. He emphasized that one of the most important immediate tasks was the study of the safety of nuclear reactors and suggested that a test should be made in a remote district of the United States.

In a press interview Sir Christopher Hinton alluded to the need for a freer exchange of information between Britain and the United States. He said this could now be on equal terms.

Korea: Atrocities. The Government formally requested the U.N. Assembly to examine atrocities committed by Communist forces against allied prisoners.

Japan. Following talks between Mr Walter Robinson, assistant Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs, and Mr Hayato Ikeda, personal envoy of the Japanese Prime Minister, a statement was issued which said that, with due regard to the limitations prohibiting an immediate build-up of Japan's defence forces to a point sufficient for Japan's defence, it had been agreed that Japan should seek to expedite defence plans, subject to the necessary Congressional authorization. The U.S. delegation had offered to help Japan in developing military equipment, and experts would meet in Tokio to agree on what type Japan would need. The United States hoped that Japan would raise an army of from 325,000 to 350,000 men. (The existing national safety force comprised 110,000 men). The conference had also agreed that as Japan's own forces developed reductions in Japan's contribution to the support of U.S. forces should be considered and U.S. forces should be progressively withdrawn. A figure of \$50 m. was considered a reasonable target amount for commodities to be supplied under the Mutual Security Act, and it was thought that the yen proceeds of the sale of such agriculture products should be used to develop Japan's defence production and industrial potential. Pending a political settlement in Korea, Japan would continue current discussion on the items of trade with Communist China to be controlled. (It was pointed out that the decisions could not be considered final as Mr Ikeda represented Mr Yoshida and not the Japanese Government.)

31 Oct.—Colonialism. Mr Byroade, Assistant Secretary for Near Eastern, South Asian, and African Affairs, speaking in California, said that premature independence for colonial people could be 'dangerous, retrogressive, and destructive'. The United States' basic policy was to support evolutionary self-determination, but it was not in the best interests of the United States or the free world to grant complete freedom before a people were ready for it. He said that the old type of western colonialism was dead but a new type of Soviet colonialism was beginning to take its place which was more poisonous and subtle because it often masqueraded under the guise of nationalism and persuaded people to surrender all hope of independence. He appealed for recognition of the U.S. stake in the strength and stability of certain European nations with dependent areas, and said that a sudden break in economic relations between those nations and their dependent areas might seriously injure the European economy upon which Atlantic defence depended and at the same time prove equally injurious to the dependent territories themselves.

1 Nov.—Spain. Reports from Madrid said that the United States and Spain had reached an understanding according to which seven of the twenty-two Spanish divisions would be available for duty outside

United States (continued)

Spain in the defence of the Mediterranean area as soon as they had been equipped with, and trained in, the use of American arms.

2 Nov.—Communism. James Dolsen, a Communist Party writer, was sentenced at Pittsburgh to twenty years' imprisonment and fined \$10,000 for sedition.

Secretary of Air Force on air bases in Spain (*see Spain*).

U.S.S.R. 25 Oct.—*Pravda* published the text of a speech by Mr Mikoyan, Minister of Trade, on 17 October to managers of trade organizations, directors of large State stores, and shop assistants in which he admitted that capitalist methods of trade organization might be studied and adopted when useful. He promised speedy improvement in the supply to the public of meat, sausages, butter, and other goods and outlined a Government plan aiming at bringing meat production up to 3 m. tons and sausage production up to 1 m. tons by the end of 1955. Other goods to be increased included bicycles, radio and television sets, metal beds, watches, vacuum cleaners and washing machines. Moscow Radio said that delegates to the conference criticized short-comings 'in the organization of State co-operative and collective farm trade, in the planning of trade turnover, and in the service given to customers'.

26 Oct.—Protest to Greece. The Greek Chargé d'Affaires was handed a Note which stated that the change of Greek territory into a base for the 'aggressive N.A.T.O. bloc' created a threat to peace and security in the Balkans for which the Greek Government must bear full responsibility. The Note said that the U.S.-Greek agreement of 12 October which provided for the maintenance of U.S. armed forces on Greek territory showed that the Greek Government had begun to carry out measures directed at the preparation of a new war, having allowed Greek territory to be used with these aims by U.S. armed forces.

27 Oct.—Italian-Soviet Trade Agreement (*see Italy*).

28 Oct.—Gift to India for flood relief (*see India*).

29 Oct.—Georgia. The Supreme Soviet of the Georgian Republic dismissed its chairman, Mr V. G. Tskhovrebashvili and elected Mr M. D. Chubinidze to succeed him.

30 Oct.—Food Production. A decree was published which called for a 41 per cent rise in food production by the end of 1953 as compared with 1950. The decree said that the population's requirements 'were not satisfied', that the current year's production increase was only slightly over that of the previous year, and that in order to achieve specific increases up to 1956 the Government would invest 8,500 m. roubles (about £770 m.) in the food industry in 1954 and more than 1,000 new food factories would be built by 1956.

31 Oct.—Japanese Prisoners of War. A Japanese Red Cross delegation announced that the Soviet Government had agreed to the release of 420 Japanese war criminals and 900 civilian prisoners.

Germany. Ex-Field-Marshal von Paulus. *Pravda* published a statement attributed to ex-Field-Marshal von Paulus in which he said

that he was convinced that the fate of the German people could be built only on prolonged friendship with the Soviet Union and all other peace-loving peoples, and that the military agreements concluded in the West, based on the idea of domination, were unsuitable for restoring German unity and securing peace in Europe and increased the danger resulting from the division of Germany. In his view the peaceful unification of Germany and European peace lay in an agreement between Germans themselves and the conclusion of a peace treaty based on the Soviet Note of 15 August to the western Powers.

The official Russian news agency said von Paulus had decided to live permanently in eastern Germany.

2 Nov.—Atomic Weapons. Moscow Radio, summarizing a talk on Soviet chemical science by Mr S. I. Voitskovich of the Academy of Science, said that Soviet scientists had created 'several types of atomic and hydrogen bombs'.

3 Nov.—Note to Western Powers. In a reply to the western Note of 18 October (which proposed a meeting of Foreign Ministers at Lugano on 9 November) the Soviet Government stated that the success of the proposed political conference on Korea depended on the inclusion of neutral States at the conference and it insisted that the lessening of world tension depended largely on the settlement of China's international relations—the establishment of China's lawful rights in the United Nations and her participation in the solution of basic questions relating to peace and security. It therefore repeated the proposal for a five-Power conference of the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, the United States, China, and the U.S.S.R. The Note described the western Powers' refusal to agree to a five-Power conference as groundless since, it said, they had made it impossible for Russia to take part in the Korean political conference owing to their refusal to admit neutrals and since the question of lessening international tension was to be excluded from the Korean conference.

The Note repeated that the coming into force of the Bonn and Paris treaties would mean the remilitarization of western Germany, and that such remilitarization would be a threat to Soviet security. It said that the so-called European Army had nothing in common with genuine European security and that the Government was prepared to abide by the Anglo-Soviet treaty of 1942 and the Franco-Soviet treaty of 1944 and to consider new security guarantees. The Note then reaffirmed Soviet attachment to Potsdam principles and offered to discuss at a Foreign Ministers' meeting (a) the convening of a peace conference to consider a German peace treaty; (b) the formation of a provisional all-German Government and the holding of all-German elections; also the easing of German financial and economic obligations resulting from the war. But it stated that until an all-German democratic Government had been formed it would be impossible either to secure genuine free elections or to re-establish Germany as a democratic, peace-loving State. It was also impossible to consider the German question independently of the question of American military bases in Europe which, it was alleged, were designed for aggressive aims. The Note asked the

U.S.S.R. (continued)

western Powers to clarify whether they intended to continue with ratification of the Paris and Bonn treaties because, it said, the ratification and entry into force of those treaties would make the reunification of Germany impossible and would make discussion of Germany at the Foreign Ministers' meeting pointless.

On the basis of the foregoing, the Soviet Government repeated its proposal for a Five-Power conference of Foreign Ministers at which (a) the five Powers should consider measures for lessening international tension, and (b) the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France, the United States, and the Soviet Union should discuss the German question.

In regard to the Austrian treaty, the Note stated that the Soviet Government awaited a reply to its Note of 28 August and observed that the discussion through ordinary diplomatic channels suggested in that Note had not yet taken place.

YUGOSLAVIA. 22 Oct.—Trieste. Marshal Tito declared in a statement to the press that whether Italian troops entered Zone A or not he would regard a transfer of the administration of the territory to Italy as sufficient justification for Yugoslav troops to enter the zone. He said the results of the three-Power Foreign Ministers' conference was not satisfactory because Yugoslav objections to the Anglo-American decision of 8 October had not been considered. He indicated that, failing a four- or five-Power conference, he would propose direct Yugoslav-Italian talks and said that if Italy refused it would prove that she did not want a settlement but was trying 'through blackmail' to gain western support for her aspirations at Yugoslavia's expense.

23 Oct.—Hungary. An agreement with Hungary, providing for a joint commission to investigate frontier incidents, came into force.

24 Oct.—Trieste. Italian proposal for withdrawal of troops (*see Italy*).

25 Oct.—A Foreign Ministry statement described the Italian proposal for a withdrawal of troops as 'obvious hypocrisy' calculated to confuse world opinion about the events which led Yugoslavia to take military precautions in the area. It recalled that the Italian military demonstrations had begun in August and that Yugoslavia had refrained from counter-measures until the Anglo-American decision of 8 October when it was felt that the situation demanded them.

In an article in *Borba* Mr Kardelj, Vice-President, warned the western Powers that any submission to 'Italian blackmail' would compromise the aims of the Atlantic Pact before world opinion.

26 Oct.—Writing again in *Borba*, Mr Kardelj said that Yugoslavia was not opposed to western ideas on a conference, provided the Yugoslav attitude towards the Anglo-U.S. decision of 8 October was not prejudiced. But, he said, Yugoslavia would prefer a conference whose first task would be to remove the existing threat to peace before approaching the question of a settlement.

Marshal Tito received a deputation from the Holy Synod of the Serbian Orthodox Church which brought a letter declaring the Bishops'

unanimous support for the Government's opposition to the decision of 8 October.

Yugopress asserted that Italy had sent another division to the frontier.

30 Oct.—Trieste. Mr Djilas, Vice-President of the Federal Council, said at Maribor in Slovenia that Yugoslavia would be ready to take part in a conference such as had been proposed by Mr Noel-Baker in the British Commons debate, but he emphasized that there should be no pre-conditions.

3 Nov.—Protest to Italy *re* export ban (see *Italy*).

Tanjug denied Rome reports that the goods banned by Italy were war material and said that among other things printing machinery and fats had been blocked.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

- Nov. 18 I.L.O. Governing Body and Committees, Geneva.
Dec. 14-16 North Atlantic Council, Paris.
" 15 Central African Federal Election.
1954
Jan. 27 Southern Rhodesian General Election.